

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF WATER AND WATERSHEDS

FEB 1 2013

Reply to Attn of: OWW-130

Daniel Redline, Regional Administrator Idaho Department of Environmental Quality 2110 Ironwood Parkway Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Re:

Request for Preliminary Certifications of NPDES Draft Permits for the City of Coeur d'Alene,

City of Post Falls and the Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board NPDES Permit Numbers ID0022853, ID0025852, and ID0026590

Dear Mr. Redline:

Enclosed are preliminary drafts of the NPDES permits plus fact sheets for the above referenced facilities.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) had previously provided draft certifications for the above referenced permits in the fall of 2012. Subsequent to these draft certifications, the EPA sent revised preliminary draft permits, which incorporated conditions necessary to conform to the conditions of the draft certifications, to the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Spokane Tribe of Indians for review. Based on comments received from Ecology and the Tribe, the EPA has made revisions to the preliminary draft permits.

The most significant revision is that the effluent limits for CBOD₅ and ammonia that are based on Washington's water quality standards are now expressed as seasonal average limits, instead of average monthly and average weekly limits.

We are asking for Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) review of these permit actions. IDEQ may prepare revised draft certifications if this is deemed appropriate. We will include in the public notices and fact sheets a reference to the State's preliminary Section 401 certifications. If possible, we would appreciate a response within 30 days.

Since these preliminary drafts are not intended for review outside of IDEQ, we appreciate your discretion in retaining them within the department.

If you have any questions on the enclosed materials, please contact Brian Nickel at 206-553-6251 or at Nickel.Brian@epa.gov. We look forward to receiving your comments on these draft permits.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager

Sum R. Poulson for

NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures

cc: June Bergquist, IDEQ Coeur d'Alene Regional Office w/enclosures